

## Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 COME-00 EB-04 LAB-01 SIL-01 /060 W

----- 011554

R 180810Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5335

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 13990

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT ID

SUBJ: SUSPENSION OF BERITA BUANA LIFTED

REF: JAKARTA 13864

1. KOPKAMTIB CHIEF ADMIRAL SUDOMO HAS RESTORED JAKARTA DAILY BERITA BUANA'S PRINTING LICENSE AFTER THREE-DAY SUSPENSION FOR INACCURATE PRINTING.

2. ARTICLE THAT PROVOKED SUSPENSION WAS REPORT THAT BUS PASSENGERS HAD BEATEN TO DEATH A PICKPOCKET AS RESULT OF OVERENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE TO SUDOMO'S EARLIER ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PASSENGERS SHOULD "MOB" PICKPOCKETS(REFTEL). IN FACT, PICKPOCKET WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED, NOT KILLED.

3. SUDOMO'S DECISION TO END PUNISHMENT OF BERITA BUANA AFTER ONLY THREE DAYS MAY HAVE BEEN PROMPTED BY VIGOROUS INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF BERITA BUANA BY INDONESIAN JOURNALIST'S ASSOCIATION (PWI) WHICH CALLED ACTION "DRASTIC" AND SIMILAR CRITICISM FROM SEVERAL OTHER QUARTERS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ASSOCIATION OF NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHERS (SPS) SUPPORTED THE PWI APPEAL; KOMPAS RAN CRITICAL EDITORIAL THAT WAS QUITE STRONG GIVEN SURRENT SITUATION; A MOSLEM  
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, ISMAEL HASSAN MATEREUM, QUESTIONED

SUDOMO'S ACTION, AND EVEN FONMIN MALIK EXPRESSED  
"REGRET" OVER IT, ALTHOUGH MALIK ALSO WARNED THAT PRESS  
SHOULD AVOID INFLAMATORY REPORTING.

4. AFTER MEETING WITH JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION NOV 15  
SUDOMO SAID TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF BERITA BUANA WAS AN  
"EDUCATIVE MEASURE" AND PROMISED BAN WOULD BE LIFTED.  
NEXT DAY, KOPKAMTIB SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED MEASURE HAD BEEN  
SUCCESSFUL AND THAT BERITA BUANA WOULD REOPEN NOV 18.  
IN CRINGING EDITIRIAL ON FIRST DAY OF RESUMED PUBLICATION  
BERITA BUANA PRAISED GOVERNMENT POLICY TOWARD DEVELOPMENT  
OF "FREE AND RESPONSIBLE PRESS" AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IT  
HAD TAKEN "PAK DOMO'S LESSON TO HEART."  
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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CRIMES, LICENSES, NEWSPAPERS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Authority:** CollinP0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 29 JUL 2002  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PINT, ID, BERITA BUANA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005